

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Title of Publication: mime014.jpg

Other Known Title: Shrek Pictures

Format: Computer Image File

Director/Author: Not Applicable

Producer/Publisher: Not Stated

Country of Origin: Not Stated

Language: English

Applicant: Secretary for Internal Affairs

Distributor: Not Applicable

Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.
------------------------	---

Descriptive Note: Not Applicable.

Display Conditions: Nil

Date of entry in Register: 28 November 2005

Date of direction to issue a label: Not Applicable

OFLC No: 501211

Excisions: Not Applicable

Reasons for excisions:

Not Applicable

**Summary of reasons
for classification:**

The computer image file entitled *mime014.jpg* is classified as:
Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

The image file is a cartoon image depicting explicit sexual activity between two of the main characters from the animated film "*Shrek*". The characters are fantasy creatures, combining animal, human, and mythical characteristics. One of the characters is a donkey, who in the movie, is

voiced by a famous Hollywood actor. The image makes a parody of the characters' close relationship, using crude and salacious humour to do so. The characters are the central figures of the film and the creators of this image are suggesting that this may be the "next level" of their relationship. The fact that most people relate the donkey's character to the voice of the actor humanises him to some extent and so does the fact that as well as talking, he engages in other human activities. This image does not legitimise or encourage the idea of sex between people and animals. Rather, it uses the idea to make a crude satirical comment on the relationship between the characters. For all these reasons, the publication does not promote and support, or tend to promote or support bestiality.

The likelihood of harm to adults is limited by the obviously contrived nature of the image and the relevance of the humour intended. However, young viewers do not have the maturity or experience to deal with adult sexual humour and they are less likely to view the image as a joke or to understand its intent. A restriction limiting the availability of the publication to adults therefore reduces the likelihood of injury to the public good.

The classification of this publication interferes with the freedom of expression, as set out in section 14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. The classification is a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression that reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to limit the availability of publications that will be injurious to the public good.